a major share holder of the Super Bazar should be made available to the Govt. of Delhi by appropriate measures". The Central Govt. is considering this matter. Regarding Kendriya Bhandar, no such action has been taken.

हिसार से रिवाड़ी के लिए गेहूं से लदी विशेष मालगाड़ी

499. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:** क्या **खाद्य और उपभोक्ता** मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से वितरित किए जाने के लिए 1 मार्च, 1997 को विशेष मालगाड़ी से गेहूं की बोरियां हिसार से रिवाड़ी भेजी गई थी; यदि हां, तो उक्त मालगाड़ी से कितने बोरे गेहूं भेजा गया था;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त मालगाड़ी रिवाड़ी की बजाय किसी अन्य स्थान पर भेज दी गई थी; यदि हां, तो इसके लिए कौन व्यक्ति उत्तरदायी थे;

(ग) उक्त विशेष मालगाड़ी से गेहूं के बोरे वापस रिवाड़ी कैसे लाए गए और उस पर कितना धन खर्च हुआ;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इसके लिए उत्तरदायी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कोई कार्रवाई की है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य तथा उपभोक्ता मामले के राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह): (क) जी, नहीं। गेहूं के बोरों से लदी कोई भी विशेष मालगाड़ी 1 मार्च, 1997 को भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने हिसार से रेवाड़ी नहीं भेजी थी।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Foodgrains worth Rs. 2000 crores missing from FCI godowns

500. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of news report appearing in 'The Pioneer' dated 3rd July, 1997 that rice and wheat worth Rs. 2000 crores are missing from FCI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into it; if so, the number of people detained and charge sheets filed; and

(d) the modus operandi used by the fraudsters in this scame and what steps are taken to tighten the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Certain discrepancies in the figures relating to stock position maintained by the Govt. vis-a-vis the Food Corporation of India have been detected. The Govt. and the FCI are in the process of reconciling the discrepancies. A special Audit has also been ordered by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

Loss of fruits and vegetables due to non-availability of food processing Industries

501. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss of fruits and vegetables every year due to non-availability of food processing industries in the different states of the country particularly in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to ensure full utilisation of fruits and vegetables produced in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) Although no survey has been conducted to assess the loss of fruits and vegetables in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, it is

estimated that quality deterioration and loss in value that take place are about 25 to 30% in some fruits and vegetables, due to inadequacy of post harvest infrastructure and perishability of the produce. However, since substantial quantities of fruits and vegetables are utilised in house-hold and unorganised sector for preservation etc., the net unutilised quantity may not exceed 5%.

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated various plan schemes for implementation during the 8th Plan period for the development of fruits and vegetables processing industries, the details of which are given in the statement (*see* below). Similar schemes are proposed to be continued in the 9th Five Year Plan.

Statement

Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for Implementation during the Eighth Plan Period

S. No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Areas.
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable Processing facilities.
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.
6.	Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
7.	Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
8.	Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (From 1993-94).

Proposal to change Food Products Order

502. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change Food Products Order as reported in Economic Times dated 9th June, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons for the change; and

(c) how will it be ensured that synthetics used are not health hazards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) The Government has recently amended Fruit Products Order of 1955 and notified in the Gazette vide S.O.No. 1530 dated 24th June, 1997.

(b) The amendments were necessitated by the need of the processed food industry to promote innovation in product mix, ensure quality and good manufacturing practices, cut down procedural delays and redundancy, and protect consumers' interest.

(c) Only those synthetic additives are allowed to be used which are found to be non-hazardous to health.

Assistance to cooperatives for promotion of FPI in Maharashtra

503. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minster of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended financial assistance to the cooperatives for promotion of food